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GENERAL

1. Results of Brussels Conference--Secretary Acheson reports from Brussels that the US, British, and French Foreign Ministers have agreed to prepare promptly a general outline of arrangements to be made with the German Federal Republic in order to reflect the changes in the present occupation regime which would be made necessary by Germany's participation in Western European defense. As a guide to drafting these arrangements, the Foreign Ministers enunciated the following general principles: (a) the entry of Germany into Western defense arrangements would logically entitle it to substantial freedom, and the goal should therefore be to establish the relations between the occupying powers and Germany on as broad a contractual basis as possible; (b) every effort should be made to explore with the Germans themselves the problems involved in establishing such relations between Germany and the occupying powers; (c) the arrangements made should cover all aspects of these relations, except those which can be resolved only in a peace settlement; and (d) commitments made by Germany through its adherence to international statutes or organizations would render possible the relinquishment of occupation controls.

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2. Chinese Communists speak cryptically of returning to UN--The US delegation at the UN has been told that Indian delegate Rau "got nowhere" in his final meeting with General Wu although the Chinese Communists made cryptic remarks to the effect they hoped to return to the UN soon. The delegation also reports that the cease-fire committee is giving consideration to the possibility of sending to Peiping a cable intended to quiet Chinese Communist fears of falling into a trap by accepting the cease-fire resolution.

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STATE review(s) completed.

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3. Status of Netherlands New Guinea negotiations--US Ambassador Cochran in Djakarta has been told by an Indonesian representative that a deadlock may occur in the Hague negotiations on the disposition of Netherlands New Guinea if pressure is not brought to bear on the Dutch to accept the Indonesian proposal for compromise. Cochran believes "a grave threat" exists in the possibility that such a deadlock would endanger the existence of the Netherlands-Indonesian union and damage East-West relations, with a consequent impairment to US interests.

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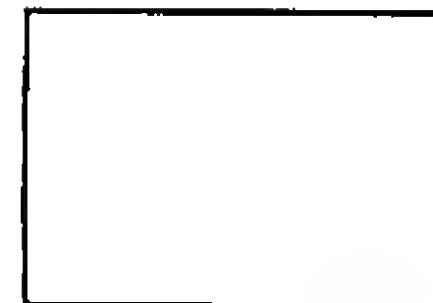
4. INDOCHINA: Reported Viet Minh intentions--US Consul Blancke in Hanoi transmits information received from a French official, who evaluates it as "extremely reliable," that Viet Minh leaders two months ago requested three regular Chinese divisions (as "volunteers" if necessary) to inflict a crushing blow on French and Vietnamese forces in Tonkin. Source reports that the Chinese have only recruited volunteers from among south Kwangsi-Yunnan bandits, which the Viet Minh are reluctant to accept, and that the lack of full-scale Chinese Communist support is irritating the Viet Minh. In the opinion of the French official, the Viet Minh fear that recent French political concessions may bring nationalist support to the Vietnamese Government and ultimately undercut the Viet Minh if the French are not quickly driven "into the sea." The official concluded that the Viet Minh feel they must undertake such a drive even though they have misgivings of being able to accomplish their objective without more Chinese aid.

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5. KOREA: Treatment of ROK prisoners deplored--US Political Adviser Sebald reports from Tokyo that the UN Command is "deeply disturbed" by continuing reports of inhumane treatment of political prisoners by ROK authorities and fears ROK excesses may discredit the entire UN Korean effort. The UN Command has regarded the trial and punishment of collaborators and other political offenders as an internal matter for the ROK and has therefore refrained from taking any action beyond bringing atrocity reports to the attention of responsible ROK authorities. Sebald states, however, that representations of the UN Command and US Embassy Seoul appear to have had little effect.

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